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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

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COUNTRY Portugal

DATE: 25X1A6a

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Fraternidade Operaria de Lisboa

DIST. 7 November 1947

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PAGES

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT

1. On 8 October 1947 a benefit theatrical performance, billed as a "performance for workers", was presented at the Capitolio, a motion picture theatre in Lisbon. Sample tickets seen here bear a rubber-stamp imprint which reads "Fraternidade Operaria de Lisboa, Sociedade Cooperativa Anonima de Responsabilidade Limitada, Calçada do Garcia 7 - 2º". The purpose of the benefit is not stated on the tickets. Their cost was ten escudos (forty cents U.S.), and the date of the performance was given as 1 October, although actually it was postponed and took place a week later. According to source, the object of the benefit was not stated when license and other arrangements were being made. 25X1A6a

The real sponsors of the performance are reliably reported to have been the Communist group controlled by Dr. Hugo Sousa, better known as Dr. Velez Grilo. (note: "Dr. Grilo", a medical research technician at the Cancer Institute, who was Secretary-General of the Portuguese Communist Party before the advent of Salazar in 1926, has since been reported as leader of the Trotskyist faction of the Portuguese Communists.) Associated with Dr. Grilo in his recent enterprise were a certain Vasco Artur Machado de Carvalho, an engineer who has been a political prisoner in the past, and Jose de Sousa, who spent eight years in the concentration camp at Tarrafal.

3. The P.I.D.E. believes that the "Grilo" faction is attempting to make use of the remnants of the Portuguese Socialist Party and its dependent organizations. The Fraternidade Operaria de Lisboa (Workers' Brotherhood of Lisbon) is one of such former Socialist organizations, and a large number of its members, including the leaders, were present at the benefit performance at the Capitolio.
4. The house was full for the performance; in describing the audience, sub-source estimated that perhaps half of those present had sufficient money to pay the admission price but was certain that the other half must have been given free tickets. A few active members of the M.U.D. were noted among the audience, as well as a group of eight or ten men classified by the police as "suspect". During the entertainment, which consisted of a Portuguese film (with Ines de Castro) and several acts of vaudeville, no mention was made of the organizers of the entertainment or the end to which the profits would be put. Only at the close of the performance did the master of ceremonies, a man named Fiusa,

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make any reference to this, and then he merely thanked the audience in the name of "the committee". There were no untoward incidents during the evening, and it was said that some of the vaudeville performers were persuaded to join the Party (note: presumably the Trotskyist Party, but possibly the Socialist) as a result of the entertainment.

5. There are plans on foot to have another benefit performance soon, which will purportedly have the secret aim of raising funds for the Socialist Party, but whose true aim will be, according to source, the advancement of the Communist group towards its control of the Socialists. No date has yet been set.
6. The Fraternidade Operaria de Lisboa has a cultural section, with temporary headquarters at Rua das Salgadeiras 1, 4th floor. Monthly dues, according to a printed receipt seen here, are two and a half escudos.

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